

Dear Secretary Shalala,

Date 11/1/99

I am writing in support of the Campaign for Responsible Transplantation's (CRT's) legal petition to ban xenotransplantation, filed on 12/10/98, (Docket No. 98P-1147/CP1). I share CRT's concerns about the dangers of xenotransplants, particularly in light of new FDA guidelines, (April 6th), instituting a *de facto* ban on primate xenografts due to "significant infectious disease risk." By issuing voluntary guidelines for xenotransplantation, and approving clinical trials using animal organs, cells, and tissue, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ignored scientific evidence showing that xenotransplantation is dangerous and ineffective. HHS failed to adequately consider the medical, legal, social, ethical, economic and environmental implications of xenotransplantation, and did not consider the availability of safer, more cost-effective and humane alternatives. HHS did not adequately consider how to protect the public from novel zoonotic viruses that could be transmitted as a result of xenotransplantation; and it failed to conduct an environmental impact statement with respect to xenotransplantation use, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. **I join CRT in demanding that HHS ban xenotransplantation, from all nonhuman species, immediately.**

Sincerely,

Norma Simon

98P-1147

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Donna Shalala, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave., S
Room 615F
Washington, DC 20201

Re: Docket No. 98P-1147/CP1

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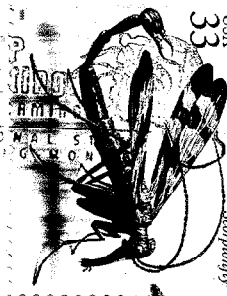
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